

Stone school to become non-profit housing?

By MARK HOLMES

Acton will be getting 18 non-profit homes under the Provincial Ministry of Housing's "Homes Now" program, it was announced this week.

The exact location of the development isn't being revealed yet, however, a source wishing to remain anonymous hinted the Old Stone School could be the location.

In a March 1 news release, Housing Minister Chaviva Hosek announced that Ac-

ton will be among 77 Ontario municipalities where more than 17,600 non-profit units will be built over the next three years.

In a series of announcements expected this week, a total of 21,000 units will be allocated to communities where families are in need of affordable shelter.

Ministry Program Co-ordinator Kim Van Louwe said Halton Region's Development and Non-Profit Accommodation Corporation has until 1991 to pick a site and start

building. Van Louwe, however, speculated that the 18 Acton homes will be built within a year, and he noted that a "school site" is being considered.

Under the "Homes Now" program, municipalities, private non-profit corporations and non-profit co-operatives can build, buy, or lease buildings for non-profit housing. About 30 per cent of the tenants will pay market rents while as many as 60 per cent will be eligible for subsidized rents.

In her press release Hosek said, "I am particularly pleased that more than 1,000 of the units will be built on government lands released through our 'Housing First' policy."

And she added, "We are working closely with community groups and organizations to help them address the housing needs in their communities. I am convinced that lower-cost homes will be created faster than

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Video store destroyed in Wed. inferno

By STUART JOHNSTON

A huge fire swept through Georgetown's Country Video store and its adjacent businesses Wednesday afternoon, causing an estimated \$1 million in damages.

The fire began just after 2 p.m. in the warehouse next to the popular video rental store, located on the 10th Line north of Georgetown. It quickly spread to the adjoining buildings. Fortunately only five people were in the building at the time and no injuries were reported.

The Georgetown fire department responded to the fire, with assistance from Town of Caledon firefighters. Both Acton and Milton fire departments were put on stand-by.

The Ontario Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the fire. The cause of the blaze is not known, but arson is not suspected at this time, a spokesperson for Halton Regional Police said Thursday.

Preliminary reports from the fire department originally set damage at \$600,000. Further investigation revealed the loss to be at least \$1 million.

Traffic along the 10th Line and River Dr. was brought to a virtual standstill as people travelled from miles around to find out what was happening. The thick, black smoke rose high in the sky as the strong winds whipped through the area.

Owner Dave Tarzwell stood quietly by as the fire trucks swarmed to the scene.

"I don't know how it started - someone smelled smoke, and by the time we all came outside the whole place was up in flames. It took about 30 seconds, that's all," he said.

The heat from the flames was so intense
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\$1 million blaze

The Country Video rental store on Tenth Line, Georgetown was destroyed by fire Wednesday afternoon. The cause of the fire is as yet unknown, but arson was not suspected at press time. The fire department estimates the damages to be at least \$1 million. Above left, firefighters arrive and prepare to extinguish the flames, but the blaze swept through the businesses too quickly, above middle and right. Only one building remained standing but the rest were left to burn themselves out.

Photos by Stuart Johnston

HALTON HILLS

Marketplace

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Milton chosen as site for Halton's dump

See page 2

Lioness Club buys hearing aids for youth

See page 6

Curwood is Business of Year

Curwood Packaging of Georgetown has been chosen Business of the Year for 1988 by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, it was announced Thursday. The award, to be presented April 5 at a special banquet, is strictly for Georgetown. An Acton award will be presented this year for 1988 since the two chambers did not amalgamate until Feb. 1 of this year. Next year, there will be only one award for the two areas.